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CLASSIFICATION

20-7-716-73
E6-13571

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

REPORT NO. 302-33971

SUBJECT Military Information on the 5th PS
Brig

DATE OF REPORT 18 July 1956

DATE OF INFO Up to 10 April 1956

PLACE ACQUIRED Germany/Poland

EVALUATION OF SOURCE T

LAST REPORT ON SUBJECT
(if applicable)

ANNEXES

APPRAISAL OF CONTENT

Source description

Defector No 34553, Czechoslovakian national, born 1933, who served with elements of the 5th PS Brig from 29 October 1955 to 10 April 1956 which was the day of desertion.

1. Until 10 April 1956, the former school house in Pastviny (Ostředek) was occupied by the 3d PS Co. The company was subordinate to the 1st Bn in Rosbach and had PS 13/3 Chob as postal address. The unit was employed on border guard duty in a border section which was 3,700 m long and extended between the Zinn Bach (ravine) base 318/mindings and the border opposite the Fransoserey near Rossmannsbach on Austrian territory.
2. The company had a strength of 3 officers, 5 NCOs and 55 men. (1st Lt., 1st Lt. Dufek (fma), was commanding officer. Other officers of the company were Lieutenant (fma), Captain (fma) and Major (fma). The other companies of the battalion had a similar strength. The soldiers wore green collar patches and red-bordered green epaulettes. The monthly pay of a private was 170 Kcs (crowns).
3. The company was equipped with 28 model-1952 automatic rapid-fire rifles of 7.62 mm, 12 Czechoslovakian-made submachine guns and 4 Czechoslovakian light machine guns. The arms were stored and distributed for parades only. Signal equipment included small collapsible field telephones with cable connection which were used for communication between telephone stations in the border area and the company headquarters.
4. There were no mines or high-tension obstacles in the border section of the 3d Co. The double-sprong entanglement was provided with rocks which were concentrated near the openings. The border area was also protected by rocks connected to trip wires. No bunkers were available. The patrol and sentry duty was irregular and not according to a schedule. A patrol included two or three soldiers who wore field glasses, a field telephone, a rifle or a submachine gun. The border guard duty was performed in three-hour or five-hour shifts.
5. The HQ 5th PS Brig was stationed in Chob. The brigade was commanded by Major Rovnay (fma). The brigade was organized into four battalions. The 1st Bn was stationed in Rosbach, the 2d Bn in Ag, the 3d Bn in Pastviny (Ostředek), and the 4th Bn in Chob. The 1st Bn included six companies. The 1st and 2d Co were stationed in outposts opposite Rossmannsbach and Tauspernau respectively which are located on West German territory. The 4th Co occupied a cantonment between Pastviny and Stitary (Schildern), and the 5th Co was stationed in Stitary. The 6th Co was stationed at an unknown post next to Stitary.

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MAP 2 ON 7 USARU 1-2 BAOR 8 VIENNA 2

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6. On 29 October 1955, defector witness of the 1955 class was interviewed in jail and transferred to the 3d Tng Co in Asturias (National). He was to serve for one year and one month. He dealt directly with the 3d Tng Co-based three-man team. After completion of service, a PG discharge could follow any individual branch of the People's Forces. The 3d Tng Co was subordinate to the 2d Tg Bn which was positioned in Ar. The battalion included five battalions composed each had an average strength of 150 to 160 soldiers. The strength of the 3d Co which was a motorized technical unit was slightly below this level. The 3d Tng Co and the 2d Tng Co were stationed at a former Soviet factory in Freixa. The 3d Tng Co was organized into six platoons. Officers of the company included Lieutenant Pavlik (fin) as commanding officer and three other lieutenants. The 2d Tng Co was commanded by Senior Lieutenant Plutman (fin).

February 1956, defector and several other soldiers of the 3d Tng Co were transferred to the 3d Border Guard Co. It was learned that the 3d Border Guard Co was also stationed in Ar.

1954 Committee. The report concerns previous observations. It is noteworthy that a PG soldier has to serve for 27 months.

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